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Hon. Vernon A. Williams Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, NW (7<sup>th</sup> fl.) Washington, DC 20423-0001 Office of Proceedings

SEP 1 0 2003

Part of Public Record

## EXPEDITED HANDLING RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED

Dear Secretary Williams:

By its Decision in STB Finance Docket No. 34392, <u>New Jersey Rail Carrier LLC-Acquisition and Operation Exemption-Former Columbia Terminals</u>, <u>Kearny</u>, <u>NJ</u>, served August 13, 2003, the Board directed the applicant, no later than September 12, 2003, to submit additional, more specific information about its proposed operations.

The applicant has been attempting to compile the data the Board seeks. The Board's Decision, however, was served at the height of the vacation season, and the Labor Day week end intervened in the interim. Nevertheless, applicant is making progress in formulating its business plan and in negotiating contracts with shippers. Applicant, moreover, has engaged New Jersey counsel to meet with representatives of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in an attempt to resolve their differences.

Applicant respectfully requests that it be allowed an additional thirty days, until October 12, 2003, to file the additional information the Board requested. Counsel for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has advised that the agency offers no objection.

Ten copies of this letter are enclosed to permit your circulation of it. An additional copy is enclosed for you to stamp to acknowledge your receipt of it and to return via the messenger.

By copy of this letter, facsimile transmitted to their counsel, service is being effected upon each of the parties.

Hon. Vernon A. Williams September 10, 2003 Page Two

If you have any question concerning the foregoing which you believe I may be able to answer or if I otherwise can be of assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Fritz R. Kahr

enc.

cc: Edward D. Greenberg, Esq. Jonathan M. Broder, Esq. John V. Edwards, Esq.